

**MINUTES OF THE
SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Room 30 West House Building, State Capitol Complex

February 3, 2016

Members Present: Sen. Allen M. Christensen, Co-Chair
Rep. Paul Ray, Co-Chair
Sen. Luz Escamilla
Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
Sen. Deidre M. Henderson
Sen. Alvin B. Jackson
Sen. Todd Weiler
Rep. Melvin R. Brown
Rep. Sandra Hollins
Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck
Rep. Earl D. Tanner
Rep. Robert Spendlove
Rep. Raymond Ward

Members Absent: Sen. Mark B. Madsen
Sen. Brian E. Shiozawa
Rep. Edward H. Redd, House Vice Chair
Rep. Bradley M. Daw

Staff Present: Mr. Russell T. Frandsen, Fiscal Analyst
Mr. Stephen C. Jardine, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Tonya Hadley, Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Christensen called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

3. Public Input

The following spoke in support of Domestic Violence (LAP) Funding:

Ms. Kendra Wyckoff, Executive Director, Safe Harbor Crisis Center
Ms. Julee Smith, Director, YCC Family Crisis Center
Ms. Jill Anderson, Executive Director, CAPSA
Ms. Jennifer Campbell, Executive Director, South Valley Services
Chief Tom Ross, Chief, Bountiful City Police

Co-chair Christensen asked Chief Ross where the money goes. Chief Ross answered. Co-chair

Christensen asked how much of the money goes to law enforcement for training. Chief Ross replied. Rep. Tanner inquired how long Bountiful has been doing the LAP program and if there has been enough time to see an impact. Chief Ross stated that more time is needed, but offered that many of the homicides in the last 29 years have been domestic violence related. He feels if the LAP can cut those in half, it would be an amazing investment.

The following spoke in support of the System of Care:

Ms. Michelle Verucchi, Parent
Gene, a father

18. Unfinished Items from the Next Meeting's Agenda FY 2016 and FY 2016 Budget Discussions and Voting

Mr. Russell Frandsen, Fiscal analyst, and Rep. Ward explained the motions to be voted on.
[Gray sheet- Budget Reduction Options](#);

MOTION: Rep. Ray moved to approve the following motions from the sheet entitled [“Social Services Subcommittee - Motions for Subcommittee Consideration”](#) dated 1/22/2016 2:28 pm line items:#1A, 1B, 7E, 11J and the entirety of section 9. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Escamilla, Sen. Weiler, and Rep. Chavez-Houck absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Ray moved to approve the sheet entitled [“Budget reduction options- Chair proposal”](#) dated 1/29/2016 at 2:33 pm, as the starting recommendations from the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee. Final recommendations will be based on the sum of all motions passed subsequent to this motion. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Escamilla and Rep. Chavez-Houck absent.

4. Department of Human Services’ Base Budget

Mr. Stephen Jardine, Fiscal analyst, highlighted budget reduction options and expenditure trends.
[4-1. Facility List with Q and A - Human Services](#)
[14d. Expenditures by Vendor - DHS Explanations](#)

5. Intergenerational Poverty Report (IGP)

Ms. Tracy Gruber, Advisor for the Intergenerational Poverty Initiative, Department of Workforce Services (DWS), and Mr. Brent Platt, Director, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) talked about the connection between the families in DCFS and those experiencing IGP. They touched on how the children in DCFS were helped by IGP over the last year. Their goal is to take this statewide. Co-chair Christensen noted good to hear that state agencies are working together.

6. Social Services Systems Interacting Now and in the Future

Ms. Lana Stohl, Deputy Director, Department of Human Services (DHS) and Ms. Sisifo Taatiti, Assistant Director, DWS confirmed the coordination between agencies. They articulated the problems with contradictory standards and costs to share the data. Ms. Taatiti offered they they are working out legally what can be shared. Rep. Tanner asked if there are state laws that are a problem or just federal privacy laws. Ms. Stohl responded there are conflicting statutes on both levels. Rep. Tanner asked for their timeline for resolution. The timeline question was left unanswered.

7. Utah System of Care Issue Brief

Mr. Jardine brought up the money involved noting that very little state money is used in this program. Federal grants like TANF and System of Care grant cover most of the cost.

[7-Issue Brief - 2016 General Session - System of Care](#)

8. Update on System of Care

Ms. Ann Silverberg Williamson, Director, DHS and Ms. Stohl provided a picture of how the System of Care model helps families. She stressed their policy, practice, partnerships, and resources strengthened families in the community. The following are related individual stories:

[8a-Amy's Family](#); [8b-Jamie's Family](#); [8c-Olivia's Family](#)

Co-chair Christensen indicated that “we” are accused of taking families out of homes to get federal dollars. Ms. Williamson retorted. Sen. Escamilla thanked DCFS for the changes in the last eight years. She said the number of emails from concerned constituents has gone down.

9. Human Services Nonlapsing Balances Issue Brief

Mr. Jardine very briefly explained.

[9-Issue Brief - 2016 General Session - Human Services - Nonlapsing and Lapsing Balances](#)

10. Follow-up on Human Services Intent Language Issue Brief

Mr. Jardine said agencies complied with all of the items of intent language – many of these were intent statements requesting reports. These reports were heard in the interim.

[10-Issue Brief - 2016 General Session - Human Services - Follow-up on Previous Intent Language](#)

11. Fees – Department of Human Services – Issue Brief

Mr. Jardine and Ms. Liesa Stockdale, Director, ORS discussed what was previously a \$10 child support flat fee for collections with the committee. Ms. Stockdale proposed to dial the fee back, to a sliding fee scale. This keeps revenue neutral and causes no fee increase to the poor. The proposal is a for a 6% fee with a maximum \$12. Co-chair Christensen questioned the minimum. Ms. Stockdale returned.

Mr. Mark Brasher, Deputy Director, DHS, expounded on the equity concerns and stated this is a reasonable approach. Mr. Brasher added the focus is to keep it neutral, so there will be no new revenue.

[#2A Motions for Subcommittee Consideration \(blue\) - authorization of fees](#)
[11-Issue Brief - 2016 General Session - Fees - The Department of Human Services](#)

12. Required Reports for the Department of Human Services – Issue Brief

Mr. Jardine presented [12-Issue Brief - 2016 General Session - Human Services - Required Reports by Statute.](#)

13. Department of Human Services' Executive Director Operations Base Budget

Rep. Edwards and Ms. Shannon Alvey, Director, Office of Public Guardian (OPG), requested a new line item to be added for OPG. They are not requesting additional funding now. Ms. Alvey shared that they just want to be seen as a direct service provider and want to be considered for future funding.

Rep. Ward asked where the motion is found. Mr. Jardine said it is a new motion to be created.

Co-chair Christensen probed for a different side of the story. Mr. Jardine replied that the committee, if it passed this motion, would be taking a small entity and putting them on the same footing as a large agency. He supposed that Ms. Alvey can't ask this committee for funding, as it sits now. Ms. Alvey commented that they can't be included under another agency, because it is a conflict of interest (according to the AG office's advisement).

Co-chair Christensen felt he couldn't accept a motion today. He wants to give committee members time to research the implications of a motion.

Rep. Tanner complimented OPG and asked where they go to take care of these people they become guardians for. Ms. Alvey imparted. Rep. Edwards plead for fairness to consider OPG as a service provider. She also spoke to Rep. Tanner's question.

Sen. Escamilla queried about the position from the Governor's office. Mr. Jardine returned. Sen. Escamilla probed if this request makes them their own division, referencing the recent debate to move USOR. Mr. Jardine explained that it would.

[13-1. DHS Ex Director Operations Purposes for Which Money Was Used FY 2015](#)
[13-2. Revenue Projected Trend FY 2015 through FY 2017 - DHS Executive Director Operations](#)
[13-3. Expenditures Projected Trend FY 2015 through FY 2017 - DHS Executive Director Operations](#)

MOTION: Rep. Ray moved to approve the following motions for the Department of Human Services' Executive Director Operations from the sheet entitled "[Social Services Subcommittee - Motions for Subcommittee Consideration](#)" dated 1/22/2016 2:28 pm line item #1C, 1L, 1M, substitute 2A (with the recommended ORS 6percent collection up to \$12) and 4B. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Chavez-Houck absent for the vote.

14. Department of Human Services' Child and Family Services Base Budget

Mr. Jardine summarized the following documents related to the base budget:

[14-2. DHS Child and Family Services Purposes for Which Money Was Used FY 2015](#)

[14b-1. Actual 5 year Trend - DHS - Revenues](#)

[14b-2. Actual 5 year Trend - DHS - Expenditures](#)

[14c-1. Revenue Projected Trend FY 2015 through FY 2017 - DHS Child and Family Services](#)

[14c-2. Expenditures Projected Trend FY 2015 through FY 2017 - DHS Child and Family Services](#)

[14d. Expenditures by Vendor - DHS Explanations](#)

[\(a\) Federal Funds Issue Brief](#)

Co-chair Christensen asked if there is an issue of supplanting. Mr. Jardine answered. Mr. Jardine also recommended that DCFS should come talk in the interim regarding why it appears that some regions spend more per case, per service category, and per worker.

MOTION: Rep. Ray moved to approve the following motions for the Department of Human Services' Division of Child and Family Services from the sheet entitled "[Social Services Subcommittee - Motions for Subcommittee Consideration](#)" dated 1/22/2016 2:28 pm line item #1C, 1S, 3V, 3W, 3X, and 3Y. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Weiler absent for the vote.

Sen. Escamilla asked about the OPG motion. Mr. Jardine clarified.

15. David C. Lawsuit

Mr. Jardine shared that this class action lawsuit was first filed in 1993 by the National Center for Youth Law (NCYL) on behalf of children who were in the legal custody of the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) or who were known to DCFS as a result of a report of abuse or neglect. A settlement was agreed to in August of 1994. The federal court ultimately dismissed the [David C. Lawsuit](#) in January, 2009. Utah put a lot of effort into increasing staff and upgrading computer systems. Governor Leavitt created the Foster Care Foundation as a result of this lawsuit.

16. Foster Care Foundation

Ms. Kelly Peterson, Executive Director, Utah Foster Care Foundation, spoke to the committee regarding the budget issues associated with their contract with DCFS. Co-chair Christensen

questioned their costs. Ms. Peterson replied. Rep. Tanner asked what their fixed costs are and if they have communicated them to the division. Ms. Peterson answered. Rep. Tanner sought clarification. It was provided. Co-chair Christensen asked who would provide the care if UFCF was cut. Ms. Peterson stated, "DCFS".

17. Follow up from June 12, 2015 Division of Fleet Services presentation regarding its pilot program with state agencies including the Department of Human Services

Mr. Jeff Mottishaw, Director, Division of Fleet Services and Mr. Brasher shared a [presentation](#). In March 2015 they removed 63 vehicles from state social service agencies and staff instead used rental cars from Enterprise. They itemized utilization information. They plan to expand the pilot program.

Co-chair Christensen questioned the cost to lease vehicles versus renting through Enterprise. Mr. Mottishaw responded. Co-chair Christensen asked about how employees share the new rentals. Mr. Brasher and Mr. Mottishaw answered. Rep. Ward sought clarification on the cost savings. Mr. Mottishaw returned.

19. Other Business

Requests for appropriations are due tomorrow.

MOTION: Rep. Tanner moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Weiler and Rep. Daw absent for the vote.

Co-Chair Christensen adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Sen. Allen M. Christensen, Co-Chair

Rep. Paul Ray, Co-Chair